



Off the Shelf

Library News and Events

Volume 4, Issue 1

January/February 2012

Library Giving: Your Gift Speaks Volumes

The Library is a registered charity that relies on help from the community to provide services. There are many ways you can make a difference at your Public Library:

- Annual donation to the Adopt-a-Book program
- Donation in memory of someone you love or in honour of a special occasion
- Make a lasting contribution by giving to the Library Legacy Book Fund
- Remember the Library in your will

For more information, phone 562-3279 or email: rgillis@nssc.library.ns.ca

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Celebrate Family Literacy Day on January 27th

Family Literacy Day is a Canada-wide celebration that encourages families to read together. More than 1.5 million Canadians have participated in the initiative since its debut in 1999. Reading and learning together is a family affair! Everyday family activities provide us with many opportunities to learn and grow. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development and can help a parent improve their skills as well! Several library branches, including the McConnell Library in Sydney, will be celebrating Family Literacy Day with special events. Check with your branch or take a look at the newsletter's program insert for more information, or visit www.familyliteracyday.ca to find out more. -Tara MacNeil



Adopt-A-Book 2012

The Cape Breton Regional Library's annual Adopt-a-Book Program provides an affordable and meaningful way to give a gift that is opened again and again. It's easy to do and a great way to give to your community while being environmentally responsible. Each library branch within the CBRL has a "wish list" of books to choose from. To see the lists, visit your local branch or look online at www.cbri.ca to learn how to adopt a book. The book you purchase will include a permanent book plate with an inscription of your choice, and you can designate the branch where you'd like the book to be kept. Books range in price from six dollars to \$50. If you don't find a suitable book on our wish list, we can work with you to find an appropriate book. Your contribution is tax-deductible, and Adopt-a-Book donations help the library meet our fund-raising obligation of 3% of our annual operating budget. Ask at your local branch for details on the Adopt-a-Book program. -Rosalie Gillis

Teen Songwriting Contest

The CBRL is gearing up to host its second Teen Songwriting contest. This contest will promote the bridge between songwriting, literacy, and our local libraries here in the CBRM. Cape Breton is deeply rooted in musical tradition from Celtic music to folk music, and the CBRL wants to celebrate the growing variety of music that has been produced locally over the past several years. The contest is open to youth between the ages of 13-18 who are members of the Cape Breton Regional Library. Entries for the contest will be accepted from February 1 to March 17, with judging happening from March 19-24. Prizes will be \$300 for first place, \$200 for second place, and \$100 for third place. The Teen Songwriters Contest will culminate in a Songwriter's Circle, which will be a public event to be held at the McConnell Library in Sydney on March 29. The finalists will perform their original songs for an audience and the judges, who will also share a song they wrote. This program is made possible with the support of the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage. -Rosalie Gillis

McConnell Feasibility Study Presentation Jan. 24

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24, at 7:00pm at the James McConnell Memorial Library to present the results of a feasibility study carried out last fall to explore options for expanding, renovating, and improving the library building. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) engaged Trifos Design Consultants and dmA Planning & Management Services to complete the study. Throughout the fall, they assessed the building and held public meetings and focus groups to engage the public in exploring options for the existing library. The public meeting will be held to present the findings of the study and to provide residents with further information about the project. -Rosalie Gillis

eBooks and audiobooks @ the Library

Did you receive an eReader as a gift this holiday season, or are you interested in accessing library books from the comfort of your own home during these cold winter months? The library offers a growing collection of free eBooks and digital audiobooks through the Nova Scotia Public Libraries OverDrive/Digital Media Download service. If you're interested in learning more about how to download digital media and finding out which eReader devices are compatible with OverDrive, check out our resource page on the library's website at www.cbri.ca/Overdrive/OverdriveResources.asp. The library will offer introductory sessions on eBooks and audiobooks at the McConnell branch on Wednesday, January 11 from 2-3:30 pm and 7-8:30pm, and on Friday, January 20 from 7-8:30pm. Sessions will be held at the Glace Bay Library on Friday, January 13 from 3-4:30pm and 6-7:30pm. To register for a class or for more information on how to download eBooks and audiobooks, please e-mail cbri-support@nssc.library.ns.ca or phone 562-3161. -Nicole Radzikowski

Storytelling @ the Library

Attention all budding storytellers! The Cape Breton Regional Library will be hosting six storyteller workshops, facilitated by our Storyteller-in-Residence, Ken Chisholm, and held in a variety of communities in our region, including Baddeck, Glace Bay, Ingonish, Louisbourg, North Sydney, and Sydney. The workshops will help people become comfortable with their creative self and help them to develop effective ways to use structure, story and character to tell their story. The workshops will help to promote the art of storytelling and encourage people to think about developing the stories of their own community. Each workshop will accommodate a maximum of ten people and will be held on Saturdays so that people who work during the week will have an opportunity to attend. The workshops will be held for one half-day. Workshop dates for each community have not yet been finalized but will be set in early January. There is no fee for the workshop but be sure to register early to get a seat. This program is made possible with the support of the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage. -Rosalie Gillis

CBC's Canada Reads 2012



Canada Reads is an annual "battle of the books" competition organized and broadcast by the CBC. All of the books that are nominated this year are available through your library. The 2012 nominees are:

The Game by Ken Dryden. Panelist: Alan Thicke
Legendary goalie Ken Dryden chronicles his 1979 season with the Montreal Canadiens.

On a Cold Road by Dave Bidini. Panelist: Stacey McKenzie
Dave Bidini, formerly a guitarist in The Rheostatics, chronicles the band's cross-Canada tour with The Tragically Hip in 1996.

Prisoner of Tehran by Marina Nemat. Panelist: Arlene Dickinson
Nemat's harrowing account of the two years she spent as a teenager in a political prison in Iran after the Islamic Revolution.

Something Fierce: Memoirs of a Revolutionary Daughter by Carmen Aguirre. Panelist: Shad
Carmen Aguirre's memoir about coming of age in the Chilean resistance movement.

The Tiger by John Vaillant. Panelist: Anne-France Goldwater
The true story of the struggle between the citizens of a remote Russian village and the fierce, endangered Siberian tiger who seeks revenge against poachers.

New Library Staff Member

The library recently welcomed our newest staff member, Chris Johnstone-Laurette, who will begin working as a library clerk at the Main-a-Dieu branch in January. Chris is originally from Kitchener, Ontario and is the youngest of eight children. Libraries have always played an important role in Chris's life. When he was five years old, he opened a lending library on the front porch of his house – like a lemonade stand, but with books instead of drinks. Chris lived in southern Ontario and British Columbia before moving to Nova Scotia six years ago. He currently resides in Sydney with his wife Stephanie and their daughter Oona. Chris has been employed in a variety of settings over the years, and describes his professional life as "an oscillation between a love of books and animals." For the past six years Chris has been employed as a veterinary assistant with the Cape Breton Veterinary Service. "When I heard about the opening at the Main-a-Dieu library, I was enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with books again," says Chris. "I'm happy to be given the opportunity to work at the library and to train with the team at the McConnell branch." Welcome to the library, Chris! We look forward to working with you. – Nicole Radzikowski



Above: Chris Johnstone-Laurette

Read-Alikes & Author Profiles

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT CONTEMPORARY FICTION

JODI PICOULT



Are you waiting for the latest book by your favourite author or have you read all of his or her books and are looking for something new? On the CBRL website, we've added author profiles that provide a list of a popular author's books and read-alike suggestions of similar authors and titles you might enjoy. So far, we've profiled Harlan Coben, Jane Green, Louis L'Amour, Jodi Picoult, and Nora Roberts. More authors will be added soon, and be sure to check out our website for more recommending reading suggestions and staff picks! -Nicole Radzikowski

Borrow Anywhere Return Anywhere (BARA) Program is Here to Stay

Library users throughout the province will be pleased to know that the popular Borrow Anywhere, Return Anywhere (BARA) pilot program that allows users to borrow books at one location and return them at another is here to stay. For example, a library book borrowed at the McConnell Branch in Sydney can be returned at any public, college or university library in the province. During the pilot phase, launched in October 2009, more than 20,000 items were returned at libraries throughout the province under this program. "This is great news for library users who enjoy the convenience of this service already," said David Wilson, Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage. The BARA program was developed by Libraries Nova Scotia, a collaboration of all public, college and university libraries. Libraries Nova Scotia was formed by Nova Scotia's university, college and public libraries to improve library services. More information on the BARA program is available at www.librariesns.ca.

5th Annual Community Knit-a-thon Supports Charity & Library Programs

Knitting needles and crochet hooks will be flying again Saturday, Feb 25th, at the McConnell Library and Baddeck Library branches, as crafters come together to participate in the 5th KnitFit Community Knit-a-thon. At this annual charity event, anyone who wants to lend their time and skill to knit or crochet warm and wooly items for a local charity can join us for all or part of the day.

The Knit-a-thon is also a fundraiser for children's programs at CBRL. Participants gather pledges to raise much-needed funds to support Children's programs at CBRL, such as the Summer Reading Program, Teen and Tween programs, and children's programs across the region. Pledge sheets are available at all CBRL branches and on our website. If you can't knit or crochet, you can contribute by sponsoring a friend or one of the participants at the event.

Boxes are now located at all branches to accept donations of yarn, tools and patterns. At the Knit-a-thon, there is usually a lot of donated yarn to choose from for use during the day or to take home to make items for charity. Many people bring in the items they have been working on over the previous year too, so we end up with hundreds

of hats, mitts, scarves, sweaters and more to donate to a local charity. This year, the fruits of our labour will go to the Salvation Army "Clothe-a-Family" Campaign in both Cape Breton and Victoria Counties. Some items that we received before Christmas were donated to Loaves and Fishes for their Christmas parcels.

Generous local food sponsors will provide refreshments and lunch. So come to the McConnell Library or the Baddeck Library, between 10 am and 5 pm, Feb 25th, 2012, for a fun day creating warm winter items for Cape Breton families, to support us, or just to watch! - Chris Thomson



Above: Some of the items donated at the 2011 Knit-a-thon.

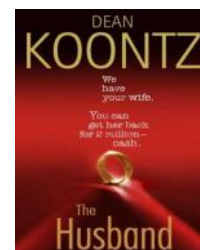
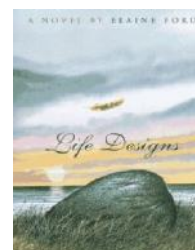
Staff Profile: What I'm Reading

Shelley works at the McConnell Library in Sydney, and one of her responsibilities includes organizing & performing in the CBRL children's puppet group, which performs at the McConnell Library on the last Saturday of each month. The puppet group is currently seeking volunteers between the ages of 12-16. For more information or to become involved, visit <http://www.cbrr.ca/services/puppets.asp>

Favourite authors: Janet Evanovich, Wendy Markham, and James Patterson

Favourite books: *One for the Money* by Janet Evanovich, *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult, and *You're not You* by Michelle Wildgen

Currently reading: *Life Designs* by Elaine Ford and *The Husband* by Dean Koontz.





CAPE BRETON REGIONAL LIBRARY

50 Falmouth Street
Sydney, NS
B1P 6X9

PHONE:
(902)562-3279

FAX:
(902)564-0765

E-MAIL:
inssc@nssc.library.ns.ca

Do you love the
library? Then be sure
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on Twitter!



Cape Breton Regional Library

Branch Hours Effective January 1, 2012

BADDECK

526 Chebucto St. – Phone 295-2055
e-mail: baddeck@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Tues: 12 - 5, 6 - 8
Wed: 12 - 5, 6 - 8
Thurs: 12 - 5, 6 - 8
Fri & Sat: 10 - 5

DOMINION

78 Commercial St. – Phone 849-3590
e-mail: dominion@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon & Tues: 1 - 5:30, 6 - 8
Wed: 1 - 5:30
Thurs: 10 - 12, 1 - 5:30, 6 - 8
Fri & Sat: 10 - 12, 1 - 5:30

DONKIN (Elementary School)

81 Centre Ave – Phone 737-1154
e-mail: donkin@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon & Tues: 2:30 - 5:30
Wed & Thurs: 2:30 - 5:00 & 6:00 - 8
Fri: 2:30 - 5:00

FLORENCE

676 Bras d'Or Florence Rd – Phone 736-7583
e-mail: florence@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Tues: 1-5, 6-8
Wed & Fri: 1 - 5
Thurs: 1 - 5, 6 - 8
Sat: 10 - 1

GLACE BAY

121 Union St. – Phone 849-8657
e-mail: glacebay@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon: 2 - 9
Tues - Fri: 10 - 9
Sat: 10 - 5:30

INGONISH

(Victoria North Regional Branch)
36243 Cabot Trail, Ingonish – Phone 285-2544
e-mail: ingonish@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Tues – Thurs: 12 - 5, 6 - 8
Fri: 9 - 12, 1 - 5
Sat: 10 - 12, 1 - 5

LOUISBOURG (W.W. Lewis Memorial)

10 Upper Warren St. – Phone 733-3608
e-mail: louisbou@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Tues & Thurs 2 - 5, 6-8
Wed & Sat: 2 - 5
Fri: 10 - 11:30, 2 - 5:30

MAIN-A-DIEU

2886 Louisbourg Main-a-Dieu Road
Phone 733-5708
e-mail: mainadie@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Tues: 1-5, 6-8
Fri: 10-1, 2-5
Sat: 2 - 5

NEW WATERFORD

3390 Plummer Ave - Phone 862-2892
e-mail: newwater@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon: 1:30 - 5:30, 7 - 9
Tues – Thurs: 10 - 9
Fri: 10 - 7
Sat: 10 - 5:30

NORTH SYDNEY (Wilfred Oram Centennial)

309 Commercial St - Phone 794-3272
e-mail: northsyd@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon: 1:30 - 5:30, 7 - 9
Tues – Thurs: 10 - 9
Fri: 10 - 7
Sat: 10 - 5:30

RESERVE MINES (Tompkins Memorial)

2249 Sydney Road – Phone 849-6685
e-mail: reservem@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri: 2 - 5:30
Wed – Thurs: 2 - 5:30, 6 - 8

SYDNEY (James McConnell Library)

50 Falmouth St – Phone 562-3161
e-mail: mcconne@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 10 - 9
Sat: 10 - 5:30

SYDNEY MINES (Martha Hollett Memorial)

1 Fraser Ave – Phone 736-3219
e-mail: sydneymi@nssc.library.ns.ca
Hours: Mon: 1:30 – 5:30, 7 - 9
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10-5:30, 7 - 9
Fri: 10-5:30
Sat: 10-12, 1-5:30

- BOOKMOBILES -

CAPE BRETON COUNTY BOOKMOBILE

Headquarters: 50 Falmouth St. Sydney
Phone: 562-3279

VICTORIA COUNTY BOOKMOBILE

Headquarters: 526 Chebucto St. Baddeck
Phone: 295-2055

Look for bookmobile schedules on our
website: www.cbri.ca

For more information, please visit our website at
www.cbri.ca.